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HISTORY

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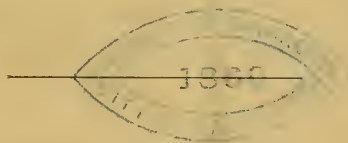
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KINGS AND QUEENS OF ENGLAND,

IN VERSE.

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P R E F A C E .

The publisher hopes to accomplish some good by placing this little book before the public. Instructors of the young will find it extremely valuable in impressing many events in English History upon the memories of their pupils. Let the teacher require the pupil to commit to memory but a single page each day, repeating the preceding ones, and neither will have cause to regret the exercise. It will be found of great assistance all through life, in locating many prominent historical events.

Should this meet with encouraging patronage, another little book of a similar character, of French history, will be published.

The publisher also appends a brief and interesting account of the noble and generous conduct of Pocahontas in coming forward and interposing earnest entreaties in behalf of Captain Smith, resulting in mollifying the feelings and revenge of her Father, and the rescue of Smith from a wretched death.

This interesting and instructive little book should be in the library of every Sabbath School in the land, and every child and youth should commit its contents to memory.

WILLIAM T. SMITHSON,

14 WALL STREET, NEW YORK.

WILLIAM I.

Born, 1023. Began to reign, 1066. Reigned 20 years, 10 months, 25 days. Died of a fall from his horse, 1087, aged 64.

William the First, as the Conqueror known,
By the battle of Hastings ascended the throne.
His laws were all made in the Norman tongue;
And at eight every evening the curfew was rung,
When each English subject by royal desire,
Extinguished his candle, and put out his fire.
He bridled his kingdom with forts round the
border,
And the tower of London was built by his order.

WILLIAM II.

Born, 1056. Began to reign, 1087. Reigned 12 years, 10 months, 24 days. Killed by an arrow, 1100, aged 43.

William, styled Rufus, from having red hair,
Of virtues possessed but a moderate share;
And, tho' he was one whom we covetous call,
He built the famed structure called Westminster Hall.

Walter Tyrrel, his favorite, whilst hunting one
day,
Attempted a deer with an arrow to slay;
But missing his aim, struck the king to the heart,
And his body was carried away in a cart.

HENRY I.

Born, 1068. Began to reign, 1100. Reigned 35 years, 4 months. Died. 1135, aged 67.

Henry the First, for his learning much famed,
Beauclerc, or fine scholar, was justly surnamed.
His subjects revered him, and not without cause;
He lightened their burdens, restored their old laws.

Abolished the *curfew*, bad money put down,
And kindly remitted the debts of the crown.
But Henry was frail, and licentious beside,
And at last by a surfeit of lampreys he died.

STEPHEN OF BLOIS.

Was born, 1085. Began to reign, 1135. Reigned 18 years, 10 months, 23 days. Died, 1154, aged about 68.

King Henry's demise was no sooner made known,
Than Stephen contrived to step up to the throne;
By acts and by bribes he the clergy secured,
And by popular actions the people allured.
And though, for a time, through Matilda's success,

He felt, as a captive, the deepest distress.

Yet fortune once more placed the crown on his brow,

And there it continued 'till death laid him low.

HENRY II—*Plantagenet.*

Was born, 1132. Began to reign, 1154. Reigned 34 years. 7 months, 12 days. Died, 1189, aged 58.

King Henry the Second, Plantagenet call'd
In disputes and vexations was sadly enthrall'd ;
His consort was jealous, his sons took up arms,
Proud Becket, too filled him with serious alarms,
But when that Archbishop had met with his
doom,

The monarch was scourged by the side of his
tomb.

Then London was paved that the streets might
look pretty,

And houses no longer were thatched in the city.

RICHARD I—*Surnamed Cœur de Lion.*

Was born, 1157. Began to reign, 1189. Reigned 9 years, 9 months. Died of a wound received in battle, in 1199, aged 41.

Richard the First next ascended the throne,
Whose valour, no doubt, to the reader is known.
With the heart of a lion all danger he faced,
And the famous CRUSADES with his presence he
graced.

But forced, by a storm, upon Italy's coast,
This lover of fighting his liberty lost :
Thrice five tedious months in confinement he staid,
And then a vast sum for his ransom was paid.

JOHN—*Surnamed Sansterre or Lackland.*

Was born, 1167. Began to reign, 1199. Reigned 17 years, 6 months, 13 days. Died, 1216, aged 49.

John surnamed Lackland, 'tis said to his shame,
To the Pontiff of Rome a mean vassal became.
His barons, indignant, then marshalled their
bands

And the famed Magna Charta obtained from his
hands.

But charters and oaths were unable to bind,
A monarch possessing so treacherous a mind;
His standard he raised, and his influence tried;
But fever assailed him, he sickened and died.

HENRY III—*Surnamed of Winchester.*

Was born, 1207. Began to reign, 1216. Reigned 56 years, 1 month. Died, 1272, aged 64.

The next in succession is Henry the Third,
Who seldom regarded his oath or his word;
The sums he exacted he lavishly spent,
And shew'd his profusion wherever he went.
His barons, at length were in battle arrayed,
And Henry, near Lewes, a prisoner was made;
But peace was restored after Leicester was slain,
And war raged no more to the end of his reign.

EDWARD I---*Surnamed Longshanks.*

Was born, 1239. Began to reign, 1272. Reigned 34 years, 7 months, 21 days. Died, 1307, aged 69.

Edward, called Longshanks, from all that we hear,
Was very successful, but very severe;
In Wales and in Scotland his terrors he spread,
And the blood of their poets and warriors shed.
In London alone, of the Jews as they say,
Two hundred and eighty he hanged in one day;
But this as an act of stern justice was done,
And a prince the Welsh found on the birth of
his son.

EDWARD II---*Surnamed of Caernarvon.*

Was born, 1284. Began his reign, 1307. Reigned 19 years, 6 months, 18 days. Deposed and murdered, 1327, aged 44.

King Edward the Second, Caernarvon surnamed,
Was chiefly for follies and sufferings famed;
His favorites his time and affection engross'd,
'Till his queen proved untrue and his sceptre was
lost.

Deposed and despised to the tower he went,
And from prison to prison was afterwards sent;
There, at leisure, he mourned over scenes that
were past,
And by ruffians was cruelly murdered at last.

EDWARD III---*Surnamed of Windsor.*

Was born, 1312. Began to reign, 1327. Reigned 50 years, 5 months. Died, 1377, aged 65.

For Edward the Third, as historians relate,
The love and respect of his subjects were great.
In France and in Scotland most bravely he fought;
And the monarchs as pris'ners to England he brought.

He built Windsor Castle; and writers have stated,
The knights of the Garter by him were created,
To science and merit his name was endear'd,
And now the Reformer, John Wickliffe appear'd.

RICHARD II---*Of Bordeaux.*

Was born, 1366. Began to reign, 1377. Reigned 22 years, Deposed, 1399; and murdered, 1400, aged 34.

King Richard the Second, as we have been told,
Ascended the throne when eleven years old.
Wat Tyler's rebellion he soon overthrew;
Yet he proved himself weak and impolitic too.
His barons took arms and resisted his power,
And forced him to seek a retreat in his tower.
His crown he resign'd, but resign'd it in vain.
For at Pontefract Castle poor Richard was slain.

HENRY IV---*Of Lancaster, Surnamed Bo- lingbroke.*

Was born, 1367. Began to reign, 1399. Reigned 13 years, 5 months, 20 days. Died, 1413, aged 46.

When Richard the Second to prison was driven,
To Lancaster's duke the dominion was given ;
But scarcely had Henry been solemnly crowned,
When plots and rebellions began to abound :
By vigor and promptitude these were suppress'd,
And many abuses now partly redress'd.
In this reign the first blood of the Lollards was
spilt,
Famed Whittington lived, and Guildhall was re-
built.

HENRY V---*Surnamed of Monmouth.*

Was born, 1388. Began to reign, 1413. Reigned 9 years, 5 months, 11 days. Died, 1422, aged 34.

Famed Henry the Fifth next ascended the throne,
And soon by the French was his bravery known.
Though sick and fatigued, and in numbers but
few,
His troops were enabled the foe to subdue,
On Agincourt's field, which will long live in
story,
For there English soldiers were covered with
glory.
Fresh conquests succeeded ; but Henry's career,
Was cut short by grim death in his thirty-fourth
year.

HENRY VI---*Surnamed of Windsor.*

Was born, 1421. Began to reign, 1422. Reigned 38 years, 5 months, 4 days. Deposed, 1461. Died, 1471, aged 50.

Of splendor unconscious, to govern unable,
King Henry the Sixth was a babe in his cradle,
In London and Paris they crowned this poor
child,

Who, when he grew up, proved meek, merciful,
mild ;

But weak were his measures, and feeble his sway,
France was lost, and the English refused to obey :
Civil war soon blazed out, plots on plots were
disclosed ;

Edward triumphed in arms, and the king was
deposed.

EDWARD IV---*Of York.*

Was born, 1443. Began to reign, 1461. Reigned 22 years, 1 month, 5 days. Died, 1483, aged 41.

In Edward the Fourth a stern prince you behold,
Of whom many terrible tales have been told.

In the field he was brave, but tyrannic at best,
And cruelty held its dire reign in his breast.

His legalized murders in hist'ry look black,
His brother he drowned in a butt of sweet sack ;
For an innocent jest he would chop off a head,
And terror prevailed till the tyrant was dead.

EDWARD V.

Was born, 1470. Began to reign, 1483. Reigned, nominally, 2 months, 13 days. Smothered, 1483, aged 13.

Young Edward the Fifth was a king but in name,
For Richard, regardless of sin and of shame,
Both him and his brother deprived of their right,
And caused the poor boys to be smothered one
night.

In a chest at the foot of a staircase they lay;
Till a hundred and ninety-one years passed away,
Then to Westmister Abbey their bones were re-
moved,
As the lines on their monuments are said to have
proved.

RICHARD III---*Surnamed Crookback.*

Born, 1450. Began to reign, 1483. Reigned, 2 years,
2 months. Killed in battle, 1485, aged 35.

This monarch called Crookback, or Richard the
Third,

(Of whom many tragical stories you've heard,
Was sullen, reserved, cruel, treacherous, base,
To England a scourge, and a stain to his race.
Detested he lived, unlamented he died.

For though brave he possessed not a virtue be-
side.

By Richmond, at Bosworth, the tyrant was slain,
In his thirty-eighth year and the third of his
reign.

HENRY VII *Surnamed Tudor.*

Was born, 1455. Began to reign, 1485. Reigned 23 years, 8 months. Died, 1509, aged 54.

In Henry the Seventh and his consort we find
The houses of York and of Lancaster joined.
And tho' two pretenders laid claim to the crown,
Both Simnel and Warbeck were shortly put
down.

The king loved his money : yet he reared for his
fame,

The beautiful chapel which still bears his name.
In his reign the West Indies were likewise found
out,

And at Richmond in Surrey, he died of the gout.

HENRY VIII.

Was born, 1492. Began to reign, 1509. Reigned, 37 years, 9 months, 7 days. Died, 1547, aged 55.

Now comes the Eighth Henry in royal array,
The Bluebeard of England, historians say ;
Who by passion incited, or jealousy led,
Thought nothing of short'ning his wives by a
head.

Divorces and murders astonished the nation ;
The monks lost their cash in the new Reforma-
tion.

Great Cardinal Wolsey was left in the lurch,
And the king lived and died, the " Supreme head
of the Church "

EDWARD VI.

Was born. 1537. Began to reign, 1547. Reigned, 6 years, 5 months, 8 days. Died, 1553, aged 16.

King Edward the Sixth, when but nine years of age,

Ascended the throne with the mind of a sage:
The Latin and French he could fluently speak,
And understood Spanish, Italian, and Greek.
He founded Christ's Hospital; crowns he first
coined,

And half-crowns beside, as in hist'ry we find.
He favored the cause of the great Reformation,
But died at sixteen, to the grief of the nation.

MARY *Surnamed The Bloody.*

Was born, 1516. Began to reign, 1553. Reigned, 5 years, 4 months, 11 days. Died, 1558, aged 43.

In Mary the consort of Philip was seen,
A furious bigot, a merciless queen;
The Duke of Northumberland, Lady Jane Grey,
With her lord to the scaffold were all led away,
And Ridley, and Cranmer, and Latimer died
As martyrs, with hundreds of subjects beside.
But Heaven interfered, bleeding England to save,
And Mary, detested, sank into her grave.

ELIZABETH *Surnamed the Good.*

Was born, 1533. Began to reign, 1558. Reigned, 44 years, 4 months, 7 days. Died, 1603, aged 70.

Elizabeth next had a glorious reign,
 She aided the Protestants, humbled proud Spain,
 The boasted Armada her warriors o'erthrew;
 And its spoils in the tower our readers may view.
 But Scotia's unfortunate queen claims a sigh;
 And Essex; the favorite, was condemned to die.
 The Royal Exchange was now built, it is said,
 And gunpowder first by the English was made.

JAMES I *Surnamed Stuart.*

Born, 1566. Began to reign, 1603. Reigned, 22 years, 3 days. Died, 1625, aged 59.

James the First, who in learning and hunting delighted,
 The crowns of old England and Scotland united;
 And tho' in the air he seemed doomed to be blown,
 He found out the plot and remained on the throne;
 In his reign a translation of Scripture was made;
 His foes the great Raleigh to ruin betrayed;
 The New River to Town was from Hertfordshire brought:
 And Whales were near Greenland, by Englishmen caught.

CHARLES I.

Born, 1600. Began to reign, 1625. Reigned, 22 years,
9 months, 19 days. Deposed, 1648. Beheaded,
1649, aged 48.

Charles the First, to prerogative strongly inclin'd,
Involved in a civil commotion we find.

He fought and he struggled, but all proved in vain,
He soon was made prisoner, his forces were slain.

The Parliament triumphed, the king was deposed,
And a scaffold the scene of his sufferings closed :

Though Lyttleton says, who his history has
penned,

He excelled as a husband, a father and friend.

CHARLES II.

Born, 1630. Began to reign, 1660. Reigned, 24 years,
7 months, 8 days. Died, 1685, aged 55.

Whilst Cromwell was styled Lord Protector at
home,

Charles the Second was doomed as an exile to
roam.

But when Oliver died, by consent of the nation,
Gen'ral Monk soon effected the king's restoration.

In this reign the great fire of London occur'd,
And Blood stole the crown from the tower, I've
heard.

The Thames was so frozen that coaches plied
there.

And booths were erected resembling a fair.

JAMES II.

Born, 1633. Began to reign, 1685. Reigned, 3 years, 10 months, 17 days. Abdicated, 1688. Died, 1701, aged 68.

James the Second had scarcely ascended the throne,
 When his folly and bigotry both were made known,
 The Protestant faith he resolved to o'erthrow,
 And did by degrees all a tyrant could do.
 The brave Duke of Monmouth attempted in vain,
 The nation to rouse, and their rights to regain.
 But William of Orange more fortunate proved,
 And the bigoted prince from his kingdom removed.

WILLIAM III *Of Orange.*

Born, 1650. Began to reign, 1689. Reigned, 13 years, 23 days. Died, 1702, aged 52.

Great William, judicious, sagacious and brave,
 Came forward Great Britain to succor and save;
 And Britons, by feelings of gratitude led,
 Placed the crown on their gallant deliverer's head.
 With Mary, his consort, he happily reigned,
 And in battle fresh laurels he constantly gained.
 The famed Bank of England now first claimed
 attention,
 And historians now the first bayonets mention.

ANNE.

Born, 1664. Began to reign, 1702. Reigned, 12 years,
4 months, 24 days. Died, 1714, aged 50.

Great Anne, who commanders of merit employed,
A series of glorious successes enjoyed;
And, spite of all foes and all factions beside,
Truly honored she lived, and lamented she died.
In this reign the fair Castle of Blenheim was
 raised,
For Marlborough's Duke, so deservedly praised.
And now flourished Swift, Pope, Arbuthnot and
 Rowe,
With Bolingbroke, Congreve, and more than you
 know.

GEORGE I *Of Hanover,*

Born, 1660. Began to reign, 1714. Reigned, 12 years,
10 months, 10 days. Died, 1727, aged 67.

George the First as Elector of Hanover known,
Succeeded illustrious Anne on the throne;
And acted so prudently in his new station,
As to gain the respect and esteem of the nation.
Now Parliament men were for seven years elected,
The South Sea delusion was formed and detected;
To prevent the small pox a new method was tried,
And the king on a journey to Osnaburgh died.

GEORGE II.

Born, 1683. Began to reign, 1727. Reigned, 33 years,
4 months, 14 days. Died, 1760, aged 77.

George the Second, though plain in his mode of
address,

Swayed the sceptre of Britain with brilliant suc-
cess ;

His virtues more useful than splendid appeared,
His justice was spotless, his name was revered ;
Rebellion was crushed, and good order maintained,
Whilst by sea and by land many victories were
gained.

The British Museum now opened to view,
And the old style was changed in this reign for
the new.

GEORGE III.

Born, 1738. Began to reign, 1760. Reigned, 59 years,
3 months. 4 days. Died, 1820, aged 82.

George the Third of his people the father and
friend,

Acted well through his reign from beginning to
end.

When the French Revolution astonished the
world,

And kings from their thrones in succession were
hurl'd ;

Unappall'd by the storm, every danger he braved.
His reign was extended (let Heaven have the
praise)

To fifty-nine years and three months and four
days.

GEORGE IV.

Born, 1762. Began to reign, 1820. Reigned, 10 years, 5 months, 9 days. Died, 1830, aged 68.

George the Fourth when his patriot father was
gone,

By right of succession ascended the throne :
To Hanover, Ireland, and Scotland he went,
Where his time and his money he cheerfully
spent ;

Famed Windsor's old castle this monarch repair'd,
And near Buckingham gate a new palace he
reared,

But ne'er did its founder within it reside.
For ere it was finished he sickened and died.

WILLIAM IV.

Born, 1775. Began to reign, 1830. Reigned, 7 years.
Died, 1837, aged 62.

Then William the Fourth took his seat on the
throne,

With his excellent queen, for he ruled not alone.
When round him arose a political storm,
He braved the rude billows and granted Reform.
And well did he reign with a heart in his breast,
That gathered around him the bravest and best !
And on Britain's broad banner his name be
unfurl'd,

As the pride of Old England, and friend of the
world.

VICTORIA I.

Born, 1819. Began to reign, 1837. Was married in 1840, to Prince Albert, of Sax-coburg.

THE PRINCESS ROYAL, VICTORIA LOUISE ADELAIDE, was born, November 22nd, 1840.

Victoria now comes in right royal array,
The noblest of wives and of mothers all say.
She reigns in the hearts of her subjects 'tis known,
And her goodness and prudence are constantly
shown.

Long may she live, and blest be the name,
Of England's great queen with her spotless bright
fame.

KINGS AND THEIR QUEENS.

William I. Matilda of Flanders.

William II. Not married.

Henry I. Matilda, A Saxon Princess.

Stephen of Blois.

Henry II. Eleanor of Guienne.

Richard I. Berengaria of Navarre.

John, youngest brother of Richard. 1, Alice. 2, Avis. 3, Isabel.

Henry III., son of John. Eleanor of Provence.

Edward I., son of Henry III. 1, Eleanor of Castile. 2, Mary of France.

Edward II. Isabella of France,

Edward III. Philippa of Hainault.

Richard II., son of Black Prince. 1, Anne of Bohemia. 2, Isabella of France.

Henry IV. 1, Mary. 2, Jane of Navarre.

Henry V., son of Henry IV. Catherine of France.

Henry VI. Margaret of Anjou.

Edward IV., son of Henry VI. Elizabeth Woodville or Grey.

Edward V., son of Edward IV. Not married.

Richard III., uncle of Edward. Anne Neville.

Henry VII. Elizabeth of York.

Henry VIII., six queens. Catherine of Aragon, Anne Boleyn, Jane Seymour, Anne of Cleves, Catherine Howard, Catherine Parr, who survived him.

Edward VI., son of Jane Seymour, died at the age of sixteen. Not married.

Mary, daughter of Henry VIII. Her consort Philip II, of Spain.

Elizabeth, a daughter of Henry VIII., Virgin Queen.

James I., son of Queen Mary of Scotland, (Stuarts) Anne of Denmark.

Charles I., son of James I. Henrietta Maria, his Queen, of France.

Oliver Cromwell, Protector.

Charles II. Married the Infanta Catherine, and Princess of Portugal.

James II. Revolution 1688. 1, Anne Hyde. 2, Mary of Este.

William III. His Queen, Mary, daughter of James II.

Anne, youngest daughter of James II. George, Prince of Denmark.

George I., Elector of Hanover, descended from James II. Sophia of Zelle.

George II., son of George I. Caroline of Anspach.

George III. American and French Revolution. Napoleon banished to St. Helena. Charlotte of Mechlinburg.

George IV., son of George III. His daughter, Princess Charlotte dies wife of Prince Leopold, King of the Belgians. His queen, Caroline of Brunswick.

William IV., brother to George IV. His queen, Adelaide of Saxe Meiningen.

Victoria, married to Prince Albert of Saxcoburg.

THE CHIEFTAIN'S DAUGHTER.

BY GEORGE P. MORRIS.

Every part of the brief but glorious life of Pocahontas is calculated to produce a thrill of admiration, and to reflect the highest honor on her name. The most memorable event of her life is thus recorded :—" After a long consultation among the Indians, the fate of Captain Smith, who was the leader of the first colony in Virginia, was decided. The conclave resumed their silent gravity, two huge stones were placed near the water's edge, Smith was lashed to them, and his head was laid upon them, as a preparation for beating out his brains with war-clubs. Powhatan raised the fatal instrument, and the savage multitude, with the bloodstained weapons stood near their king, silently waiting the prisoner's last moment. But Smith was not destined thus to perish. Pocahontas, the beloved daughter of the king, rushed forward, fell upon her knees, and with tears and entreaties, prayed that the victim might be saved. The royal savage rejected her suit, and commanded her to leave Smith to his fate. Grown frantic at the failure of her supplications, Pocahontas threw her arms about Smith, and laid her head upon his, her raven hair falling around his neck and shoulders, declaring

she would perish with, or save him. The Indians gasped for breath, fearing that Powhattan would slay his child for taking such a deep interest in the fate of one he considered his deadliest foe. But human nature is the same everywhere : the war-club dropped from the monarch's hand—his brow relaxed—his heart softened, and, as he raised his brave daughter to his bosom, and kissed her forehead, he reversed his decree, and directed Smith to be set at liberty !

Whether the regard of this glorious girl for Smith ever reached the feeling of love, is not known. No favor was ever expected in return, ' I ask nothing of Captain Smith,' said she, in an interview she afterwards had with him in England. ' in recompense for whatever I have done, but the boon of living in his memory.' '

—*Sketches of Virginia.*

Upon the barren sand,

A single captive stood,

Around him came, with bow and brand,

The red men of the wood.

Like Him of old his doom he hears,

Rock-bound on ocean's rim :—

The chieftain's daughter knelt in tears

And breathes a prayer for him.

Above his head in air,

The savage war-club swung ;

The frantic girl in wild despair,
Her arms about him flung.
Then shook the warriors of the shade,
Like leaves on aspen-limb,
Subdued by that heroic maid
Who breathed a prayer for him.

“ Unbind him !” gasped the chief,
“ It is the king’s decree !”
He kissed away her tears of grief,
And set the captive free.
’Tis ever thus, when in Life’s storm,
Hope’s star to man grows dim,
An angel kneels in woman’s form
And breathes a prayer for him.





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